Pitfall J CTO score; Same Score Different Strategy

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J-CTO (Multicenter CTO Registry of Japan) Score



Category of difficult (total point)

- 🖵 easy (0)
- intermediate (1)
- □ difficult (2)
- □ very difficult (3-5)

Success rate according to J-CTO score



J-CTO score was associated with success and now used to assess difficulty of CTO PCI

Morino et.al. J Am Coll Cardiol Intv. 2011;4(2):213-221.

Case 1: Baseline angiograms



Detail anatomy of the CTO

Clear dimple entry No calcium Lesion length < 20mm No bend First attempt

J CTO score = 0

GW crossed the lesion



Final angiograms



Case 2: Baseline angiograms



Main collateral is tortuous epicardial RV branch.

Detail anatomy of the CTO

Clear tapared entry No calcium Lesion length < 20mm No bend First attempt

J CTO score = 0

Antegrade approach



Antegrade approach was failed due to a poor distal target

Retrograde approach



Final angiograms



Coronary CTA



What is the difference?

- ✓ J CTO score is 0 in case 1 and 2
- ✓ Same anatomy in coronary CTA
- ✓ Same GW was used (Gaia 2)
- ✓ Procedure was extremely different



The only difference is the anatomy of CTO exit. Wide and clear distal exit in case 1, small and ambiguous exit in standard angiography in case 2.

Case 3: Baseline angiograms

Tapared entry? Calcium Lesion length > 20mm? No bend First attempt

J CTO score = 2

Case 4: Baseline angiograms



Case 4: Collateral

Abrupt entry Calcium J CTO Lesion length > 20mm? score = 2 **Bend**? **First attempt**

Coronary CTA



case 3 J CTO score = 1

case 4



Contrast clearly seen in the segment

Representative Cases Showing Discrepancies Between CTA and Conventional Angiography Regarding 4 Morphologic Characteristics of J-CTO Score Entry Shape Bending



CCTA-derived J-CTO score might be a more useful predictor of successful PCI of CTO than CAG-derived J-CTO score



Fujion A, et.al. JACC Cardiovasc Imaging. 2017 Jun 14

Case 3: Antegrade approach



A Fielder XTR GW easily passed the lesion, however, it was very difficult to advance devices. Finally rotational atherectomy successfully opened the vessel.

Case 4: Difficult for Antegrade approach



No advancement of GW via antegradely. Retrograde floppy wire advanced to the proximal easily.

Case 4: Retrograde approach



Retrograde injection revealed lesion length is short. Antegrade conquest pro 8-20 and step down to Fielder XTR crossed the lesion antegradely. Very difficult to advance devices. Finally rota bare wiring and rotational atherectomy successfully opened the vessel.

Retrograde summit: Procedure success by J-CTO score



CTO Recanalization Techniques According to J-CTO score



A.Galassi, et al. JACC Cardiovasc Interv. 2016 May;9(9):911-922

Retrograde summit: Overall J-CTO score



More than 50% of case has unsuitable morphology of CTO exit, which has not been investigated in J-CTO study



Consider stopping if > 3 hr; 3.7x eGFR ml contrast; Air Kerma > 5 Gy unless procedure well advanced.

Message

- J CTO score has been using to assess difficulty for CTO PCI.
- However, procedure detail was not mentioned.
- Many studies show retrograde approach has been increased as a J CTO score increased.
- Retrograde approach is necessary even in low J CTO score groups.
- CCTA derived J CTO score might be more useful scoring system than angiographically derived J CTO score.
- The important thing is exit port morphology and identification of that point clearly.
- Referring algorithm is helpful to build a strategy.